

Father will invite you to come forward for the readings. Go to the Altar, bow and then go to the lectern. Do reading.

2 Maccabees 12:43-46*

A reading from the second Book of Maccabees

He then took up a collection among all his soldiers, amounting to two thousand silver drachmas, which he sent to Jerusalem to provide for an expiatory sacrifice.

In doing this he acted in a very excellent and noble way, inasmuch as he had the resurrection of the dead in view;

for if he were not expecting the fallen to rise again, it would have been useless and foolish to pray for them in death.

But if he did this with a view to the splendid reward that awaits those who had gone to rest in godliness, it was a holy and pious thought.

Thus he made atonement for the dead that they might be freed from this sin.

The Word of the Lord

When finished go to bottom of step, turn and face the Altar, bow and go back to your seat.